

HONORING THE ONE HUNDREDTH
ANNIVERSARY OF CALVARY
BAPTIST CHURCH IN ALLEN-
TOWN, FLORIDA

HON. JEFF MILLER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Madam Speaker, on behalf of the United States Congress, it is an honor for me to rise today to recognize the centennial anniversary of Calvary Baptist Church located in Allentown, Florida.

Calvary Baptist Church was first organized on October 12, 1910 by a group of 33 members of a tightknit farming community. After a revival meeting, the charter members decided to establish a church to observe and uphold the Word and teachings of Jesus Christ. These founders provided a strong, moral framework which established the values that the church continues to uphold today; multiple generations of the Allentown community have grown worshipping and rejoicing in the Word of God at Calvary Baptist Church.

In 1919, after 9 years of worshipping in the "Solid Block" school, the congregation bound together to build a new house of worship. Through the strength of the Almighty, the church ministered through World War II, and in 1945, church members began work on a new Sanctuary that is still in use today and provides a sanctified space for the propagation of the Gospel of the Lord.

Membership has grown in the 100-year history of this Church, from the original 33 charter members to a congregation of 381 today. The impressive growth and outstanding achievements, however, do not tell the whole story of the people of Calvary Baptist Church. The true triumph of this Church lies in its congregation's faithful devotion to the Lord.

Madam Speaker, on behalf of the United States Congress, it gives me great pleasure to commemorate the centennial anniversary of Calvary Baptist Church in Allentown, Florida. May the Spirit of the Lord continue to bless the Church and its congregation. I am certain this anniversary is the first of many milestones to come.

TRIBUTE TO RALPH STACY, A
TIRELESS ADVOCATE FOR ALA-
BAMA BUSINESS

HON. JO BONNER

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Mr. BONNER. Madam Speaker, it is with profound sadness that I note the untimely passing of one of Alabama's most dedicated and talented boosters of economic development, not to mention a dear personal friend to me and countless others, Mr. Ralph Stacy.

At a much-too-young age of 53, Ralph Stacy passed away on September 14, 2010 in Montgomery, Alabama. At the time of his death, he was the Senior Vice President for Strategic Communications of the Business Council of Alabama (BCA) and Executive Director of The Partnership, a program which links the state's 120 local Chambers of Commerce with the BCA.

The founding President and CEO of the Chamber of Commerce Association of Alabama, Ralph Stacy was unequalled in his ability to promote local business by building coalitions and utilizing effective communication strategies.

A skilled communicator who possessed an extraordinary talent for salesmanship, Ralph Stacy received two national television and print marketing awards. He was an author, syndicated columnist and radio host.

Ralph Stacy was a member of the BCA Board of Directors, Class Sixteen of Leadership Alabama, the Board of Troy University's Center for International Business and Economic Development, a Governor's appointee to the Alabama Partnership for Children and was President of the Board of Directors of the Alabama Council of Association Executives. He was also a founding partner and executive committee member of the Alabama Community of Excellence (ACE) program.

A former director of the Greenville Chamber of Commerce, Ralph Stacy was a native of nearby Georgiana, in south Butler County. He was a leader his entire life, earning the rank of Eagle Scout as a young man and going on to graduate from Huntingdon College in Montgomery, where he was a member of the golf team.

Ralph Stacy was not only a skillful business leader, but a gifted story teller and even an ordained minister, shepherding the Beatrice Community Church in Monroe County, Alabama.

Madam Speaker, I know I speak for everyone across our state who had the good fortune to know and work with Ralph Stacy that his death leaves a giant void in the fabric of Alabama.

Ralph always put the interests of our people and our communities first. His friendship, warm personality and his tireless advocacy for Alabama jobs and prosperity will be deeply missed. There was but one Ralph Stacy and his leadership can never be replaced.

On behalf of our state, I wish to extend our heartfelt sympathy to his wonderful wife, Angel, and their lovely daughter, Savannah, as well as Ralph's extended family for their loss. You are all in our prayers.

TRIBUTE TO WILLIE JEFFRIES

HON. JAMES E. CLYBURN

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Mr. CLYBURN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to South Carolina's newest inductee into the College Football Hall of Fame and one of our State's favorite native sons. Coach Willie Jeffries has distinguished himself as a trailblazing coach, a tremendous motivator, and wonderful ambassador for his community, his alma mater, and the State of South Carolina.

Willie Jeffries was born in Union, South Carolina in 1937, and is a graduate of South Carolina State College (now University) in Orangeburg, South Carolina, where he played football and baseball. He earned a bachelor's degree in civil engineering and a master's degree in guidance and counseling.

Jeffries' coaching career began in 1960 as assistant coach at Barr Street High School in

Lancaster, South Carolina. A head coaching position followed in 1961 at Granard High School in nearby Gaffney, where he compiled a 6-year record of 65-7-2. He won three consecutive state AAA championships, 1964, 1965 and 1966.

In 1973 Jeffries' alma mater called him to serve as its head football coach. During the next six seasons at South Carolina State, his record was an impressive 50-13-4. In 1979, Division I-A football and history called. Jeffries was offered and accepted the head coaching position at Wichita State University, becoming the first African American to coach a Division I team.

Jeffries became the 32nd head coach for the Wichita State University Shockers in Wichita, Kansas. During his 6-year tenure he compiled a record of 21-32-2, which ranks him third in the school's history for total wins. In 1982, his team went 8-3, which holds the distinction as the last winning season in Wichita State history. Wichita's program was discontinued after the 1986 season.

In 1984, Jeffries left Wichita State to become head coach at Howard University in Washington, DC, where he led the Bisons to their first league victory and a national championship.

In 1989, Jeffries returned to his beloved South Carolina State for what was to be another 13 years as head coach. During those years, Jeffries earned a national title and made three Heritage Bowl appearances. He retired from coaching in 2001, and served as director of athletic fund-raising until 2005, when he accepted the athletic director position at Grambling State University. Earlier this year, Jeffries was named head coach emeritus at South Carolina State and serves as a liaison between the university, its alumni, and other constituents.

Over his outstanding career Jeffries has received several honors. He was inducted into the SCSU Athletic Hall of Fame in 1998. He is also a member of the South Carolina Athletic Hall of Fame, and the Mid-Eastern Athletic Conference (MEAC) Hall of Fame. He has also received numerous honors for his community service including the Order of the Silver Crescent, South Carolina's highest award for outstanding community service, the Order of the Palmetto, South Carolina's highest civilian award. A scholarship fund and endowment have been established in his name at SCSU. During the 2002 school year, he was honored by the Black Coaches' Association with a lifetime achievement award and inducted into the South Carolina Black Hall of Fame.

The highest honor of his career came on July 17, 2010, when Jeffries was inducted in the College Football Hall of Fame. The requirements any coach must meet before being considered for this honor include coaching a minimum of 10 years and 100 games as a head coach, be retired for at least 3 years, and have won at least 60 percent of their games. Jeffries easily passed the first two tests, but he fell just short of the 60 percent winning record with a winning percentage of .565. Because of Jeffries' remarkable career spanning 317 games over 29 years and his historic significance, the selection committee considered him a candidate who should qualify for an exception based on his unique record.